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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 4

Complete if Known	
Application Number	10/685,670
Filing Date	October 14, 2003
First Named Inventor	Knight, T.
Art Unit	2125
Examiner Name	Bahta, K.
Attorney Docket Number	49599/278086

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No.[1]	Document Number: Number - Kind Code[2] (*if known*)	Publication Date MM-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials *	Cite No.[1]	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T[2]
	1	Allen, C., "The Impact of Network Topology on Rational Function Models of the Cycle-time Throughput Curve", Honors Thesis, Department of Industrial Engineering, Northwestern University, 2003.	
	2	Asbjoern M., Bonvik, Yves Dallery, and Stanley B. Gershwin, ``Approximate analysis of production systems operated by a CONWIP/finite buffer hybrid control policy," *International Journal of Production Research*, Volume 38, No. 13, pp. 2845-2869.	
	3	Bitran, G., and Tirupati, D., "Tradeoff Curves, Targeting and Balancing in Manufacturing Queuing Networks", Operations Research, 37:4, (1989), 547-564.	
	4	Domaschke, J., Robinson, J., Leibl, F., "Effective Implementation of Cycle Time Reduction Strategies for Semi Conductor Back End Manufacturing", Proceedings of the 1998 Winter Simulation Conference, 985-1010.	
	5	Enns, S., and Choi, S., "Use of GI/G/1 Queuing Approximations to Set Tactical Parameters for the Simulation of MRP Systems", Proceedings of the 2002 Winter Simulation Conference, 1123-1129.	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	11/30/05

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	6	Framian, J., Ruiz-Usano, R., and Leisten,R., "Sequencing CONWIP flow-shops: analysis and Heuristics", International Journal of Production Research,	
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	15	Louw, L. and Page, D.C. "Queueing network analysis approach for estimating the sizes of the time buffers in Theory of Constraints-controlled production systems", International Journal of Production research, 42:6, (2004), 1207-1226	
	16	M. Ettl and M. Schwehm (1994): `A Design Methodology for Kanban-Controlled Production Lines Using Queuing Networks and Genetic Algorithms' In: Tenth Int. Conf. System Engineering ICSE`94 in Coventry, UK, Coventry University Press, pp. 307-314	

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	17	McNeil, J., Mackulak, G., and Fowler, J., "Indirect Estimation of Cycletime Quantiles from Discrete Event Simulation Models Using the Cornish-Fisher Expansion", Proceedings of the 2003 Winter Simulation Conference", 1377-1382.	
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	19	P. B. Luh, X. Zhou, and R. N. Tomastik, "An Effective Method to Reduce Inventory in Job Shops (PDF format)," *IEEE Transactions on Robotics and Automation, Vol.* 16, No. 4, August 2000, pp 420-424	
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	23	Ryan, S. M. and J. Vorasayan. 2004. "Allocating work in process in a multiple-product CONWIP system with lost sales." Forthcoming in International Journal of Production Research.	
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	25	Segal, M. and Whitt, W., "A Queueing Network Analyzer for Manufacturing", in Teletraffic Science for New Cost Effective Systems, ITC-12, 1989, p. 1146-1152.	
	26	Spearman, M., Woodruff, D., and Hopp, W., "CONWIP: a pull alternative to kanban", International Journal of Production Research, 28:5 (1990), 879-894.	
	27	Vandaele, N., De Boeck, L., and Calleweir, D., "An Open Queuing Network for Lead Time Analysis", IIE Transactions, 34 (2002), pp.1-9	

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	28	Whitt, W., "The Queuing Network Analyzer," *Bell Sys. Tech.* J. 62:9 (1983), 2779-2815	
	29	Yang, F., Ankenman, B., and B. Nelson, "Efficient Generation of Cycle-Time Throughput Curves through Simulation and Metamodeling", Department of Industrial Engineering Working Paper, Northwestern University, 2004.	
	30	Zipkin, Paul H. "Foundations of Inventory Management," pp. 295-349. New York: McGraw Hill, 2000.	

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